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Reducing Gang Involvement in Worcester, MA

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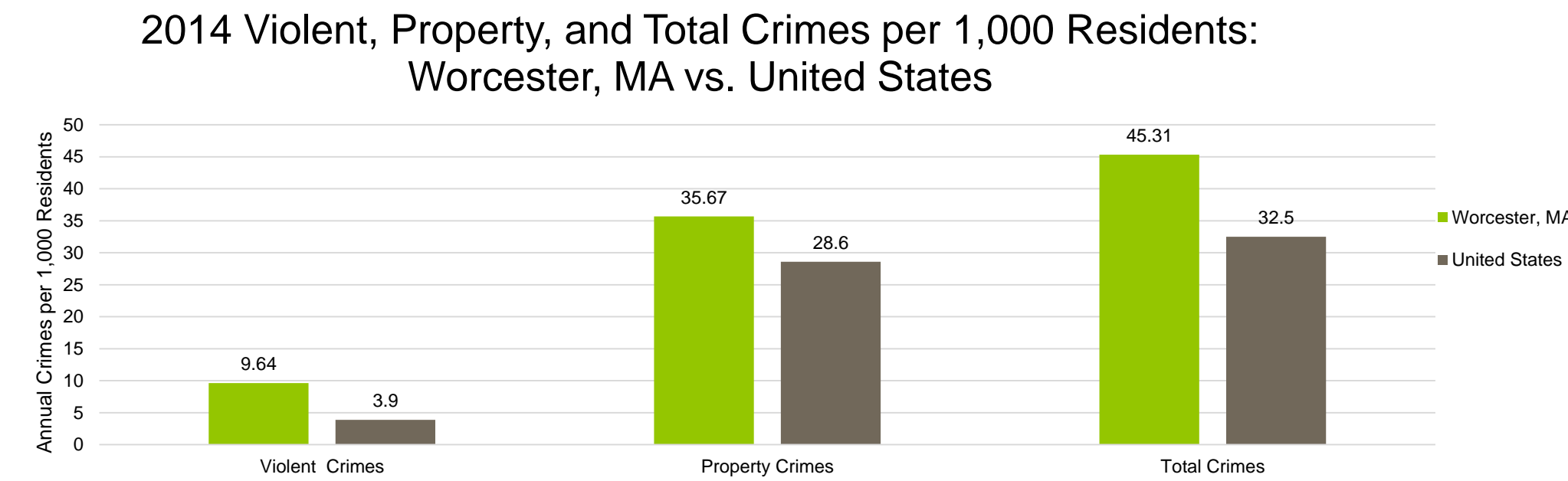
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The Problem

Worcester, MA is more dangerous than 89% of the cities in the United States:

Violent Crimes: Murder, rape, robbery, assault
Property Crimes: Burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft
Total Crimes: Violent Crimes + Property Crimes



Mike Earielo: Ex-Kilby Street Gang Member

“I tell you who it definitely ain’t too late for, the ones who ain’t in gangs yet. Those are the ones starting to get in trouble in schools and gang round with their older brothers, them are the ones we need to grab up.”³

Risk Factors of Gang Membership & Youth Violence⁴

Individual

Community

Peer

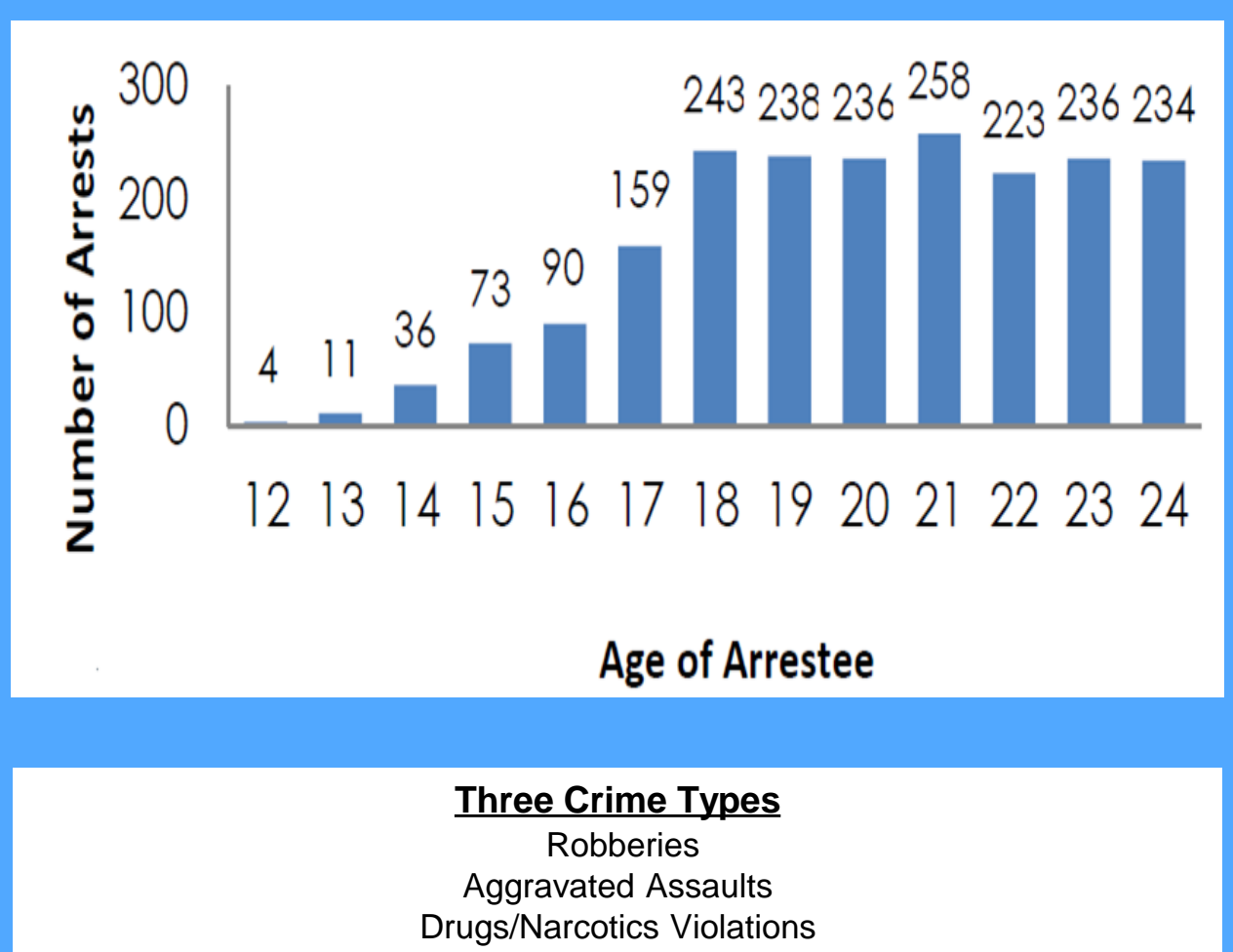
School

Family

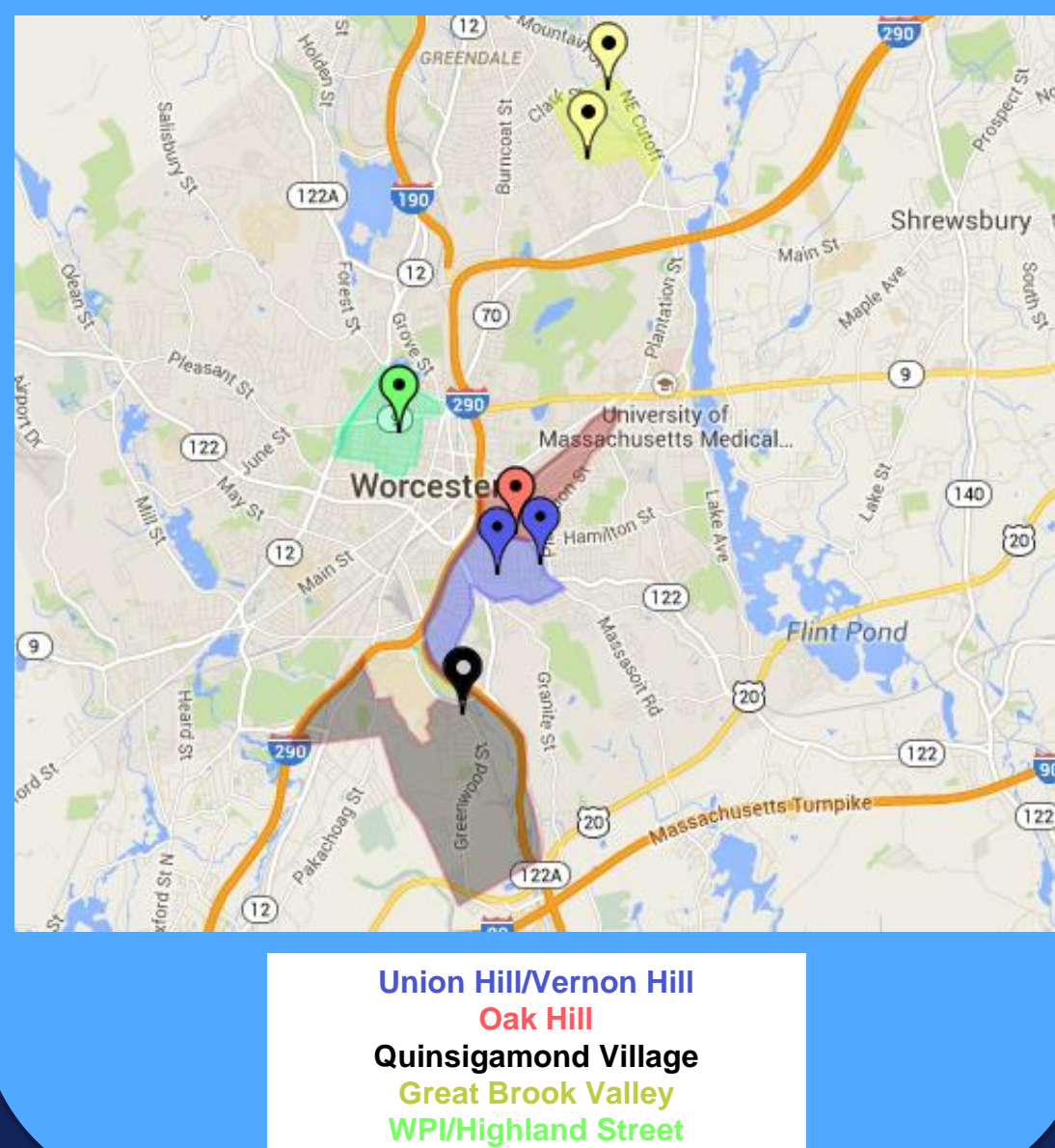
Our Objective

To keep kids in Worcester off the streets after school, and direct them towards the multiple programs offered.

Arrest Totals by Age in Three Crime Types in Worcester, MA, 2009-2012²



Location of Schools in Targeted Neighborhoods

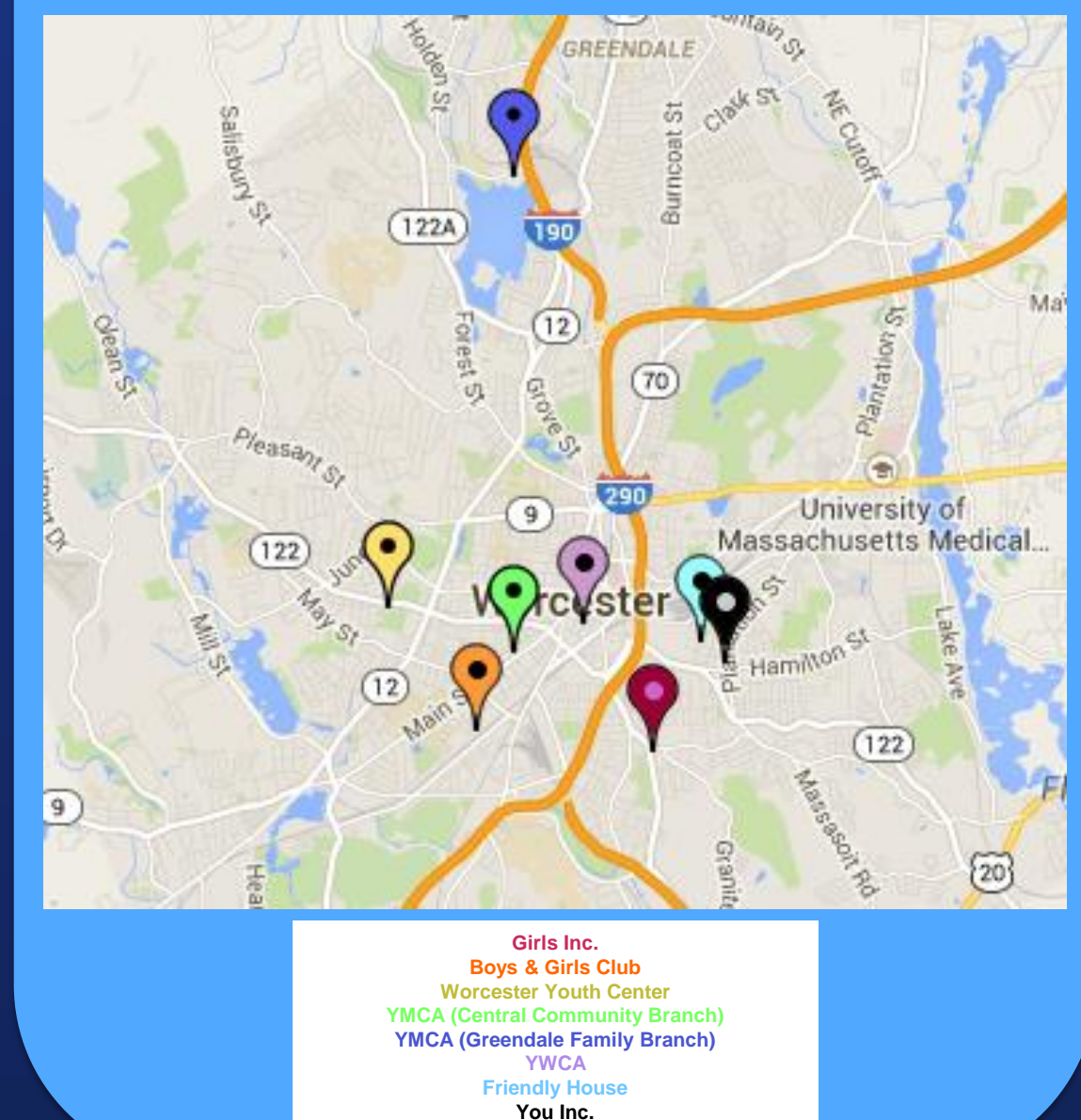


Did You Know...

Location	2014 Violent Crimes per 1,000 Residents	Crime Index
United States	3.90	N/A
Worcester	9.64	More dangerous than 89% of cities in the U.S.
Quinsigamond Village	12.15	More dangerous than 80% of neighborhoods in Worcester, MA.
Union Hill/Vernon Hill	21.62	More dangerous than 84% of neighborhoods in Worcester, MA.
WPI/Highland Street	11.31	More dangerous than 85% of neighborhoods in Worcester, MA.
Oak Hill	21.26	More dangerous than 87% of neighborhoods in Worcester, MA.
Great Brook Valley	32.64	More dangerous than 96% of neighborhoods in Worcester, MA.

Neighborhoods With High Crime Activity	Schools in Neighborhood
Union Hill/Vernon Hill	Union Hill School (Grades: K-7) Worcester East Middle (Grades: 7-8)
Oak Hill	Grafton Street (Grades: PK-6)
Quinsigamond Village	Quinsigamond (Grades: PK-6) Clark Street Community (Grades: PK-6)
Great Brook Valley	Worcester Arts Magnet School (Grades: PK-6)
WPI/Highland Street	Elm Park Community (Grades: PK-6)

Program Location



Programs in Worcester

Girls Inc.
Boys & Girls Club
Worcester Youth Center
YMCA (Central Community Branch)
YMCA (Greendale Family Branch)
YWCA
Friendly House
You Inc.



Our Goal

To create a transportation system that commutes students from the schools located in neighborhoods with high crime activity, to the various programs located throughout Worcester, and back home if needed. The problem isn't that there aren't enough effective programs in Worcester; the problem is that kids have no way of getting to these programs.

Steps Taken to Reach Our Goal

- 1) Contact programs to ask questions, and get viewpoints.
- 2) Create informative website to raise awareness of programs:
Theguysinbowties.weebly.com
- 3) Propose problem and website to the Chief of Staff of Worcester.
- 4) Reach out to schools to expose website, and have parents fill out the website's survey.

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- Kathy Odgren (Director of Programs at Girls Inc.)
- Daniel Racicot (Worcester's Chief of Staff)
- Sarah Campos (Class PLA)

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